

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 01551 231208Z

21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /056 W

----- 122263

R 231117Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7225

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T BANGKOK 1551

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: THAI ELECTIONS

REF: (A) BANGKOK 1543; (B) BANGKOK 1429; (C) BANGKOK 1022

1. DURING CHARGE'S CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN JANUARY 22, CHATCHAI MADE WHAT SOUNDED LIKE A GLOOMY FORECAST FOR THE POLITICAL EVOLUTION OF THAILAND. HE EXPRESSED DOUBT AS TO WHETHER ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD ON APRIL 5 AS SCHEDULED, AND DESCRIBED THE KHUKRIT GOVERNMENT AS "PROBABLY THAILAND'S LAST DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT".

2. AS TO HIS OWN ELECTIONS PLANS, HE WAS NON-COMMITTAL. HE DERIDED PRESS STORIES TO THE EFFECT THAT HE WOULD NOT RUN, AS WELL AS THOSE THAT HAD REPORTED THAT HE WOULD RUN. HE SEEMED TO IMPLY, HOWEVER, THAT HE MIGHT RUN TO REASSURE THE PUBLIC, WHICH HE FELT HAD BEEN UNSETTLED BY GENERAL KRIT'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF NON-CANDIDACY.

3. COMMENT: IT IS DIFFICULT TO SAY JUST HOW SERIOUS CHATCHAI WAS IN HIS COMMENTS. AT THE VERY LEAST, THEY WOULD SEEM TO REFLECT A BEARISH ASSESSMENT OF THE ELECTION PROSPECTS OF THE UNITED PARTIES THAT CONSTITUTE THE PRESENT COALITION, AND OF

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 01551 231208Z

HIS OWN CHART THAI PARTY.

MASTERS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION FORECASTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BANGKO01551  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760027-0985  
**From:** BANGKOK  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760129/aaaaazjg.tel  
**Line Count:** 62  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 BANGKOK 1543, 76 BANGKOK 1429, 76 BANGKOK 1022  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2004 by vogelfj>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** THAI ELECTIONS  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, TH, (CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006